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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Before Commissioners: Robert G. Taub, Acting Chairman;

Nanci E. Langley, Vice Chairman;

Mark Acton; and Tony Hammond

Competitive Product Prices Global Expedited Package Services 3 (MC2010-28) Negotiated Service Agreement Docket No. CP2015-62

ORDER APPROVING MODIFICATION TO GLOBAL EXPEDITED PACKAGE SERVICES 3 NEGOTIATED SERVICE AGREEMENT

(Issued March 8, 2016)

I. INTRODUCTION

The Postal Service seeks to modify a Global Expedited Package Services 3 negotiated service agreement.¹ For the reasons discussed below, the Commission approves the Modification.

¹ Notice of the United States Postal Service of Filing Modification to Global Expedited Package Services 3 Negotiated Service Agreement, February 26, 2016 (Notice). The modification is an attachment to the Notice (Modification).

In Order No. 2494, the Commission approved the Global Expedited Package Services 3 negotiated service agreement (Existing Agreement).² On February 26, 2016, the Postal Service filed notice that it has agreed to the Modification to the Existing Agreement. Notice at 1. On February 29, 2016, the Commission issued an order reopening this docket to consider the Modification, appointing a Public Representative, and providing interested persons with an opportunity to comment.³

The Postal Service intends to notify the mailer of the effective date within 30 days of receiving approval of the Modification from the Commission. Modification at 2. The Postal Service filed supporting financial documentation and a certified statement, as required by 39 C.F.R. § 3015.5. Notice at 1. The Postal Service certifies that the Modification complies with 39 U.S.C. 3633. *Id.* Attachment 2.

II. COMMENTS

Comments were filed by the Public Representative.⁴ No other person submitted comments. The Public Representative reviewed the Modification, the Existing Agreement, and the financial model filed under seal. PR Comments at 2. Based on that review, he concludes that the Modification should result in an increase in cost coverage and should be approved by the Commission. *Id.*

III. COMMISSION ANALYSIS

The Commission has reviewed the Notice, the accompanying materials filed under seal, and the comments filed by the Public Representative.

Cost considerations. The Commission reviews competitive product prices to ensure that each product covers its attributable costs, does not cause market dominant

² See Docket No. CP2015-62, Order Approving Additional Global Expedited Package Services 3 Negotiated Service Agreement, May 20, 2015 (Order No. 2494).

³ Order No. 3113, Notice and Order Concerning Modification to a Global Expedited Package Services 3 Negotiated Service Agreement, February 29, 2016.

⁴ Public Representative Comments on Postal Service Notice Concerning Modification to a Global Expedited Package Services 3 Negotiated Service Agreement, March 2, 2016 (PR Comments).

products to subsidize competitive products, and contributes to the Postal Service's institutional costs. 39 U.S.C. § 3633(a); 39 C.F.R. §§ 3015.5 and 3015.7. As long as the revenue generated by the product exceeds its attributable costs, the product is unlikely to reduce the contribution of competitive products as a whole or to adversely affect the ability of competitive products as a whole to contribute an appropriate share of institutional costs. In other words, if a product covers its attributable costs, it is likely to comply with 39 U.S.C. § 3633(a).

The Modification revises the mailer's contact information in various articles of the Existing Agreement, permits the use of Priority Mail Express International service, and amends Annex 1 of the Existing Agreement. Notice at 1; see also Modification.

Based on a review of the record, the Commission finds that the Existing Agreement, as modified, should cover its attributable costs. Consequently, the Commission finds that the Modification should allow the Global Expedited Package Services 3 product to continue to comply with 39 U.S.C. § 3633(a)(2). For this reason, the Commission finds that the Modification should not result in competitive products as a whole being subsidized by market dominant products, in accordance with 39 U.S.C. § 3633(a)(1). Similarly, it finds the Modification is unlikely to prevent competitive products as a whole from contributing an appropriate share of institutional costs, consistent with 39 U.S.C. § 3633(a)(3). Accordingly, a preliminary review of the Modification indicates it is consistent with section 3633(a). The Commission will review the cost coverage of the Existing Agreement, as modified, the cost coverage of the Global Expedited Package Services 3 product, and the contribution of competitive products as a whole to the Postal Service's institutional costs in the Commission's Annual Compliance Determination to ensure that they continue to comply with 39 U.S.C. § 3633(a).

Other considerations. The Postal Service intends to notify the mailer of the effective date within 30 days of receiving approval of the Modification from the Commission. Modification at 2. The Modification's effective date does not alter the Existing Agreement's expiration date of May 31, 2016. See Order No. 2494 at 7.

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Follow-up submissions. The Postal Service shall promptly notify the Commission of the effective date of the Modification. If the Existing Agreement, as modified, is terminated prior to the scheduled expiration date, the Postal Service shall promptly notify the Commission.

In conclusion, the Commission approves the Existing Agreement, as modified.

IV. ORDERING PARAGRAPHS

It is ordered:

- 1. The Commission approves the Global Expedited Package Services 3 negotiated service agreement, as modified.
- The Postal Service shall notify the Commission of the effective date of the Modification.
- 3. The Postal Service shall notify the Commission if the Existing Agreement, as modified, terminates prior to the scheduled expiration date.

By the Commission.

Stacy L. Ruble Secretary